

October 16, 2007

Mr. Richard Rizzi
Mail Code 84-53000
Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Re: 1006-AA51 Proposed rule change

Dear Mr. Rizzi:

As long time property owners in Donnelly, Idaho, we are very concerned about the proposed rule change that would eliminate boat docks from Lake Cascade. Losing approximately 300 private boat docks on Lake Cascade would have a devastating impact on the safety of the people and watercrafts that currently enjoy the use of Lake Cascade:

1. During annual high water times (March through July) there are so few beaches, boats must be put in and out daily. It would be impossible to beach a boat due to debris and retaining walls impeding available beach areas.
2. Boat launch facilities, such as Boulder Creek, were built to launch one boat at a time and Boulder Creek has just 10 parking spots. On a busy weekend now, there are up to 25 trucks with trailers parked everywhere at this site. These public dock sites simply cannot accommodate the stress the loss of 300 boat dock would put on it.
3. Even when there is a little beach, it is nearly impossible to the handicapped and elderly to access a boat without a dock. We would most probably have to drive to the nearest boat ramp to allow this access.
4. It seems a bit ironic that, at the same time you are requiring your lessees like the 4H camp and SISCRA to spend thousands of dollars to upgrade their ADA access, you would require the rest of us to eliminate ours.
5. Many places on the lake are 20 to 30 minutes (each way) away from the nearest boat ramp. What a waste of time and gas.
6. The 4th of July is perhaps the busiest day on the lake as literally hundreds of boats watch the fireworks from the water. If all of these boats headed to the few boat ramps at the same time (in the dark) I would not even speculate on the disaster.

This one-size-fits-all concept of a rule is ill conceived and will cause huge insurmountable problems for Lake Cascade. I urge you to eliminate Lake Cascade from this rule.

Sincerely,

Chris & Kristine Walhof